



Public Information Office
United States Courts for the Ninth Circuit

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NEWS RELEASE

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Ninth Circuit Provides Online Access to Video of Oral Arguments in Pocatello, Idaho

SAN FRANCISCO – Video recordings of oral arguments before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit during a special sitting May 24, 2010, in Pocatello, Idaho, are now available from the court's Internet website: <http://www.ca9.uscourts.gov/media/>.

An appellate panel consisting of Ninth Circuit Chief Judge Alex Kozinski of Pasadena, Senior Judge Stephen S. Trott of Boise and Judge N. Randy Smith of Pocatello convened at the U.S. District Courthouse in Pocatello. The panel heard arguments in appeals of rulings made in two cases from the U.S. District Court for the District of Idaho:

- *United States v. Alfaro*, Case No. 09-30033, an appeal by a reputed Boise gang leader who was sentenced to 150 months in prison after being convicted by a jury in 2008 of illegal possession of an assault rifle and sawed-off shotgun; and
- *Community House, Inc. v. Smith*, Case No. 09-35780, an appeal by the City of Boise of a ruling partially denying a motion for summary judgement against a community group that challenged the city's lease and sale in 2004 of a homeless shelter to a religious group.

The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals is one of two federal appellate courts to allow cameras in the courtroom for oral arguments. The video recordings of the Pocatello sitting were prepared by court staff. Idaho news media also had camera access to the proceedings.

Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals hears appeals of cases decided by federal trial courts and federal administrative agencies in nine western states and two Pacific Island jurisdictions. The court, which reported 12,223 appeals filed in 2009, convenes monthly in Pasadena, San Francisco and Seattle, every other month in Portland and periodically at other locations.